

COPY

Approved For Release 2005/08/22 : CIA-RDP79R00904A000100040084-7 **AD/NE** 25X1

**CONFIDENTIAL**

25X1

April 6, 1953

25X1

Dear Allen:

I will stop in Washington on my way home on Friday morning, April 10 and will come straight to your office.

I am trying to give you here a resume of the events in the Soviet Union As I see them:

1. If Stalin lived a few years more Malenkov would have a good chance to step into Stalin's shoes. Stalin died too soon as far as Malenkov is concerned. Now, as it appears the "old guard" (Molotov, Kaganovich, Mikoyan, Bulganin, Krushchev, Voroshilov, Beria, Shvernik) takes over the power and Malenkov is on his way out. He may occupy the position of Prime Minister for a while in order not to violate too openly Stalin's will but he has no real power.

2. The day after Stalin's death and following his will, Malenkov has been appointed Prime Minister. Simultaneously, however he was stripped of real power by:

a) Liquidation of the Presidium of the Party established during the last Congress of the Party (in November) and which together with the candidates counted over 30 members. The eight men of Stalin's old guard, whom I mentioned above were in absolute minority in this Presidium while all other members were Malenkov men. Thus having on his side majority in the Presidium Malenkov could have ruled and could also gradually exterminate Stalin's old guard as Stalin did with Lenin's men. This is why the old guard having accepted Malenkov nomination as Prime Minister insisted on simultaneous liquidation of the Presidium and return to the

APR - 7 1953  
Approved For Release 2005/08/22 : CIA-RDP79R00904A000100040084-7

**CONFIDENTIAL**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

old Politbureau of about ten men where Malenkov is in absolute minority. Furthermore, in his first public speech Malenkov had to declare that in the future everything will be administrated "collectively"

b) Several days after all the nominations have been announced, Malenkov was forced to resign from the position of Secretary of the Party. This is a key position which gave Stalin control of the party machine, thus bringing him to a completedictatorship. Stalin was holding this position until he died. Having lost control of the party Malenkov lost real power. A member of the "old guard" Khrushchev - has been named Secretary General of the party.

c) More likely the "doctors plot" was an attempt, while Stalin was still alive, to undermine Beria. It seems that Malenkov put his man in Security Ministry which was under Beria's general supervision. Stalin's suddendeath interfered with the completion of anti-Beria plan. Now Beria has taken his revenge.

Open admission that the doctors "confessions" were false is very important. It implicates that such "confessions" might have been necessary for a dictator personally and are needed today. It opens a new page in the valuation of all previous "confessions" of innumerable Stalin's victims. The fact of the doctors realease reverses also to a certain extent Stalin's doctrine developped in last years about jews being potential little bourgeois and not "solid revolutionaries." Jews, according to this doctrine are acceptable in the initial stage of a revolution, during the fight for the power but are too soft and opportunistic in later stages of consolidation of the communist victory, liquidation of bourgeoisie as a class etcetera.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

3. I believe that Stalin left a will. It seems that otherwise all the numerous appointments immediately after his death would have been impossible. It seems to me, however, that the will was not complete and provided only for the main decisions in which Stalin was interested personally. This main interest was to remain a guiding light and the creator of a new era which would continue after his death. He did not want anybody to be able to try to start a new era as Stalin did after Lenin. This was the reason why Stalin did not want Molotov to replace him. Molotov was his equal in Lenin's times. He has a great personal prestige and a background of Lenin's times. He always was number 2 man during Stalin's reign.

Malenkov who has been a party member only since 1920, who was Stalin's secretary and employee of the Central Committee under several members of old guard, who with the help of the boss has been brought to prominence during and after the war - cannot create an era. Malenkov would be only able to continue Stalin's era. That is why Stalin appoints Malenkov (who is a very able man) as his successor and in case something happens to Malenkov (who is fat and not in very good health) he indicates Beria as next, and Molotov, who always came first, only as a third man.

Besides this, Stalin's interests in his old supporters are rather limited. He wanted to give "security" to his only one personal friend - Voroshilov. He, therefore, instructed to put 72 years old

Voroshilov into honorable but powerless position of the head of the State. He more likely mentioned Mikoyan maybe also Kaganovich,

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Krushchev and Bulganin. It is difficult to say if Stalin foresaw the problem of Presidium and Politbureau - all this is rather of secondary importance.

The more important facts are:

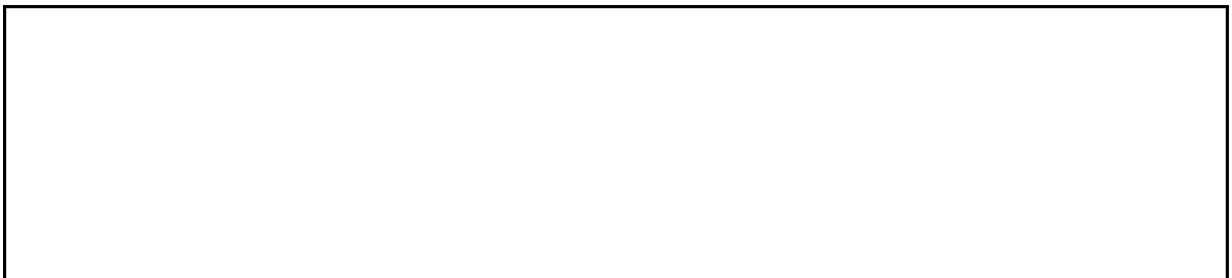
- a) Nobody took Stalin's place and the power remains in the hand of the old politbure
- b) Malenkov has no real power and is on decline
- c) It is probable that Molotov (more likely) or Bulganin will eventually take Malenkov's place
- d) It can be assumed that the internal fight for power among the old guard is unavoidable in the future.

4. The peace offensive has a very solid ground. I would like to discuss it with you personally. In my <sup>two</sup> past talks with  one a few months ago and second about a month ago - I insisted that the Korean war will be ended soon. I thought that to continue the war is against Russian interest.

See you on Friday about 9 A.M. if the train is not late.

Best regards.

Sincerely,



**CONFIDENTIAL**

25X1

25X1